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¶ Strophe and Antistrophe, as  
Chanted by the Chorus in  
the “Electra” of Sophocles.

STROPHE.

If wisdom fail me not,  
As seer misled by doubtful auguries,  
And wanting counsel wise,  
She comes, true augur with foreshadowing tread,  
Vengeance, with hands that bear  
The might of righteousness:  
She comes, my child, full soon in hot pursuit:  
And through my veins there springs a courage new,  
Hearing but now these dreams  
That come with favoring gale;  
For he, thy father, King of all Hellenes,  
Will not forget for aye,  
Nor will that hatchet with its double edge,  
Wrought out in bronze of old,  
Which laid him low in death  
With vilest contumely.

### ANTISTROPHE.

And she shall also come,  
Dread form, with many a foot, and many a hand,  
Erinnyes shod with brass,  
Who lieth still in ambush terrible:  
For there has come to those  
For whom it was not right,  
The hot embrace of marriage steeped in blood,  
Of evil omen, bed and bride alike;  
But, above all, this thought  
Fills heart and soul, that ne'er  
The boding sign will come unblamed to those  
Who did the deed, or shared;  
Lo! men can find no prophecies in dreams,  
Nor yet in words divine,  
Unless it gain its goal,  
This vision of the night.

